GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:405
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2000
INTAKE OF STUDENTS IN COLLEGES
A. VENKATESH NAIK;PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Council for Technical Education has declared a holiday with regard to increase in the intake of students and also in respect of new institutions and new courses in the year 2000- 2001;

(b) if so, whether the decision of AICTE has been reviewed by the Government;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up a high powered task force on Human Resource Development for information technology sector;

(e) if so, the composition and terms of reference thereof;

(f) whether top priority has been accorded to double the intake of students in IITs/Engineering Colleges alongwith the improvement of the infrastructure in IITs and Engineering Colleges; and
(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) to (g): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) TO (g) OF THE REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.405 FOR 22.08.2000 ASKED BY SHRI P.S. GADHAVI AND SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK REGARDING INTAKE OF STUDEN COLLEGES

Pursuant to the decision of its Executive Committee, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) decided to follow a two year cycle for granting approval for technical institutes from the academic year 2001-2002. Accordingly, applications were invited by AICTE in September 1999 for starting new technical institutions and for introduction of new courses and/or variation in the approved intake capacity of courses or programmes for the academic session 2001-2002. In the application for new technical institutes, there was a mention that applications which fulfil all the requirements as contained in the Letter of Viability may be considered for establishing new institutes during the academic session 2000-2001. In response, AICTE received 1521applications for establishment of new technical institutions in 2000-2001 / 2001-2002. AICTE has sofar granted approval for establishment of 41 Engineering Colleges at Degree level, 8 Engineering Institutionsat Diploma level and 39 for MCA in 2000-2001.However, no such mention was there in the application form for introduction of new courses and/or variation in the approved intake capacity of courses or programmes.

In view of the emerging opportunity in the field of Information Technology (IT), the matter was reviewedby the Government in June 2000 and the AICTE was advised to adopta shortened procedure to consider granting approval for starting courses / increase in intake of existing courses in IT and related areas such as Computer Science and Engineering, Information Technology, MCA, Telecommunication, Electronics, and Electronics & Telecommunication, subject to availability of requisite infrastructure and faculty, for the year 2000-2001. Accordingly, AICTE has invited applications forincreased intake capacity of existing Information Technology related courses in 2000-2001 and introduction of additional courses in IT related area. Proposals are being processed and decision of the Council for increase in intake will be communicated by 15th September 2000 and for additional courses by 31st October 2000.

In pursuance of announcement made by the Prime Minister in his address to the National Conference of IT Ministers, Government constituted a Task Force on Human Resource Development in IT, the composition and terms of referenceof which is enclosed. One of the terms of reference of the Task Force is to draw up a plan to optimally use the existing infrastructure of the IITs, RECs,other engineering colleges and educational institutions to double their student intake in IT for the next academic year and triple it in the next two years.

Annexure

Task Force on Human Resource Development in Information Technology (IT).

Composition:

The Task Force will have the following composition:

1. Minister, Human Resource Development

2. Finance Minister

3. Minister, Information Technology

4. Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh

5. Chief Minister, Karnataka

6. Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh

7 Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

8. Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

9. Secretary, Department of Secondary Education & Higher Education

The following officers will be associated with the Task Force as permanent special invitees:

1. Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

2. Secretary, Ministry of Information Technology

3. Secretary, Department of Telecommunications

4. Secretary, Department of Expenditure

The Task Force, with the permission of the Chairman, may co-opt or invite such other person(s) as it deems appropriate, to participate in any of its meetings as special invitee(s).

Terms of Reference:

1. To draw up a plan to optimally use the existing infrastructure of the IITs, RECs, other engineering colleges and educational institutions to double their student intake in IT from the next academic year and triple it in the next two years.

2. To make recommendations regarding the modalities for achieving mutually beneficial cooperation between educational institutions in IT in the formal sector and those in the private sector.

3. To suggest measures necessary for ensuring that good quality IT education does not remain a preserve of the rich and the English-educated, and is also available to students from poor and rural families, especially those from the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs.

4. To suggest measures necessary to improve teaching of non-IT subjects by using computers and the Internet for all students.